

REMARKS

Reconsideration is requested.

Claims 1-14 have been canceled, without prejudice. Claims 15-20 have been added and are based on the Examiner's suggested claim amendments on pages 3 and 7, for example, of the Office Action dated April 7, 2004.

As the subject matter of the amended claims have apparently been considered by the Examiner, the applicants believe that no new matter has been added and that the amendments do not raise new issues requiring further search and/or consideration.

Entry of the amendments is requested.

The claims have been amended to recite the mutants of Table 2, pages 10 and 11 of the specification, as suggested by the Examiner in page 7 of the Office Action dated April 7, 2004.

Entry of the above amendments and withdrawal of the Section 112, first paragraph, rejection of claims 1-14 are requested.

The Section 112, second paragraph, rejection of claims 1-14 is obviated by the above amendments as the revised claims refer to the specific numbering of the disclosure. See, page 1, lines 3-7 of the specification. The cited document was cited in the International Search Report and has been received by the Patent Office. See, Notification of Acceptance dated July 19, 2001 and MPEP § 609. Return of an initialed copy of the PTO-1449 Form filed May 25, 2001, is requested.

The Examiner's reference to "amino acids 58-84, wherein said numbering scheme is based upon isolate BH10...." (see, page 3 of the Office Action dated April 7, 2004) is believed to be a reference to the Hansen et al art cited by the Examiner. The

VEAS et al.
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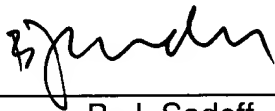
above amended claims are believed to be definite and supported by an adequate written description which describes how to make and use the claimed invention.

Withdrawal of the Section 112, second paragraph, rejection of claims 1-14 is requested.

The claims are submitted to be in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: 
B. J. Sadoff
Reg. No. 36,663

BJS:pp
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100